

Algeria: All Arabs reject invasion

JEDDAH (AP) — All Arab countries without exception reject the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, according to the foreign minister of Algeria. "Arab governments are not split about the Gulf crisis," Ahmad Ghazali said in an interview published Friday in the Saudi Arabian daily Asharq Al Awsat. "All these countries have rejected the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and its annexation." Arab governments differ only on how to bring about a solution to the Gulf crisis precipitated by the Iraqi Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait, he said. "But there is no difference on the principle." A resort to force to end the crisis would result in "a catastrophe for the Arab World," he said. Algeria advocated a settlement on basis of "resolutions of international legitimacy," he said, an apparent reference to the United Nations Security Council. Algeria is among Arab countries including Yemen which do not support the deployment of U.S. and other foreign forces in Saudi Arabia as part of the multinational military buildup confronting Iraq. These countries insist instead that a settlement of the crisis be worked out by Arab states.

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جordan تنشر يومية سودي نصري بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحافية الأردنية (الرأي)

Qasem exchanges view with Qian, U.N. chief

Hurd: Palestine problem will have to be solved after Iraq leaves Kuwait

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Britain appears to have fallen in step with an American shift in its approach to the Gulf crisis by calling for moves to resolve the Palestinian problem after Iraq withdraws from Kuwait and urging Israel to consider a "fresh thinking" in its position towards the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In a speech widely interpreted as moving closer to the American position, as outlined by President George Bush last week, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said in London Thursday that although he could not see any progress towards settling the Palestinian problem before Iraq withdraws its forces from Kuwait, he believed that the Palestinian problem will have to be addressed immediately after Iraq leaves the emirate which it invaded and took over Aug. 2.

"New initiatives over Palestine can only take place once [Iraq] has been driven out of Kuwait," Hurd told a dinner of the di-

plomatic and Commonwealth writers' association. "I can see no hope of progress until that has happened."

But Hurd held out the prospect of a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East once Iraq withdraws from Kuwait.

Hurd, who is to visit Egypt and Israel next week, challenged Israel to be prepared "with fresh thinking" for round table talks with Arab states.

"Anyone with a sense of humanity must sympathise with the Palestinians," he said.

"Their lands are occupied, they have no political rights and they are daily victims of a misguided policy which believes that the security of Israel must rest on closed universities, illegitimate settlements and even collective punishments."

Israel had a right to credible security, but no one could be surprised that Palestinian protests continued, he said.

"With Iraq out of Kuwait, moderate Arab opinion will have

(Continued on page 4)

Kaifu visit seen as positive contribution to diplomacy

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's talks with His Majesty King Hussein and other Jordanian leaders as well as Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan are seen as a positive contribution to diplomatic efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis.

The Japanese prime minister, who arrived here Wednesday and flew to Turkey Thursday evening, discussed political means to end the Gulf crisis, triggered by Iraq's Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait.

The most outstanding feature of his discussions here was an emphasis on the need to avert a military conflagration in the region, according to reports from both sides.

In his talks with Kaifu, the King said the world should not expect a peace solution if it contributes to enclose Iraq in a wall of principles. "We must deal with the causes of the Gulf crisis in a realistic fashion," the King was quoted as saying by a Japanese spokesman.

According to Japanese spokesmen, the meeting, originally scheduled to last one hour, stretched into two hours.

Kaifu reiterated Japan's rejection of the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait and called on Baghdad to withdraw its forces from Kuwait, restore the ousted Emir regime in Kuwait, allow all foreigners to leave Iraq and Kuwait, the spokesman said.

"Only when Iraq does this, fruitful and constructive negotiations for peace would follow," the spokesman said.

Ramadan briefed Kaifu on the historical background of Iraq's takeover of Kuwait and how Baghdad saw an anti-Iraq

campaign in the West which prompted it to take action, according to the spokesman.

Ramadan also referred to the four-stage French peace plan for the Middle East and described it as "first step towards peace" and that Iraq was "ready to follow it up."

The net outcome of the meeting was that "both sides stuck to their position" but Kaifu agreed to continue contacts.

The meeting also did not result in a separate deal between Baghdad and Tokyo to release Japanese nationals held in Iraq.

Kaifu was the first leader of the group of seven industrial nations to establish contact with an Iraqi leader of Ramadan's stature after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

The Japanese spokesman said Kaifu had not formulated a position on the French initiative. He also reiterated Japan's call for a solution to the Palestinian problem on the basis of United Nations resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 242. "We accept

(Continued on page 4)

\$250m Japanese aid gives Jordan economy a good start

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Japan's pledge of \$250 million in soft loans to Jordan has raised to \$450 million the amount the Kingdom will receive to help it grapple with its difficult economic situation and a senior official said it was a good beginning for Amman's efforts to put its economy back on track.

"It is the beginning of a process and is a good start," said a senior cabinet minister. "We have to see the Japanese pledge as part of the package that Jordan would receive from the international community to help us face the situation," he said.

The minister noted that Jordan had already received a pledge of DM 200 million (\$130 million) in commodity loans and grants from West Germany in addition to another DM 82 million under various bilateral agreements.

Furthermore, Jordan also expects to receive loans and grants from the European Community (EC) under a 1.5 billion European currency unit (ECU) aid package for the Kingdom as well as Turkey and Egypt. EC delegate to Jordan

said: "We appreciate the Japanese assistance and it is a good beginning but it is not enough for Jordan to deal with its economic problems."

Economist Jawad Anani said: "The \$250 million pledge is part of a \$2 billion aid package to Jordan, Egypt and Turkey. The \$100 million is part of a \$600 million emergency package while the other \$150 million from the remaining \$1.4 billion.

The \$100 million of emergency aid will be transferred to the Kingdom soon, Takenaka said. The loan has one per cent

(Continued on page 4)

Moscow, anxious to avert war, seeks compromise solution to Gulf crisis

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A high-level Soviet envoy who is currently visiting Iraq is seeking a compromise political solution for the Gulf crisis to avert a military confrontation, according to Jordanian and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials who have met with the Soviet official in Amman last week.

Yevgeny Primakov, who made a short visit to Amman on his way to Baghdad, is said to be exploring prospects for a compromise solution.

Jordanian officials said that the Soviet envoy emphasised three points about his mission to Iraq: The urgent need to find a compromise political solution, the prevention of a military confrontation and a linkage between the Gulf crisis and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Jordanian and PLO officials said that the Soviet envoy was stressing a linkage between the Gulf crisis and the Arab-Israeli conflict through striving for a comprehensive and permanent peace in

the region.

They did not elaborate on the mechanism to bring about a practical linkage in terms of a political solution but said that the Soviets appeared very concerned over achieving comprehensive peace in the region.

The officials welcomed the new Soviet move as "very positive and constructive" step to prevent war in the region.

Jordan has also welcomed statements by U.S. President George Bush in which he said that an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait will pave the way for the solution of the other conflicts in the region.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran described the U.S. statement as "positive." Badran, however, stressed that the basis for any settlement should be the implementation of all United Nations Security Council resolutions on all the conflicts in the region.

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League starts move to Cairo

TUNIS (R) — The Arab League has started moving documents from Tunis back to Cairo in line with a league resolution passed by a narrow majority last month, Arab diplomats said Friday. Tunisia, temporary headquarters of the league since 1979, says it has reservations about the early departure but it has done nothing to obstruct it, they said. Twelve of the league's 21 members decided in Cairo in September that the move should be complete by Oct. 31. A meeting last March before the Gulf crisis divided the Arab World, had set a timetable extending until next June. Tunisian Foreign Minister Habib Bourguiba told a meeting of Arab foreign ministers in New York Wednesday that Tunisia would abide by the decisions of the March meeting, which were approved by all the league members. The March meeting proposed leaving a permanent Arab league office in Tunis but the Cairo meeting did not mention this. The Arab diplomats said the league started shipping documents to Cairo several days ago and the staff of the secretariat would have moved by the end of the month.

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Gorbachev urges Iraq to pursue political solution

MOSCOW (R) — An envoy of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has told Iraq its forces should leave Kuwait, Soviet television reported Friday.

In a report from Baghdad, a television correspondent said Yevgeny Primakov stressed to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein that Moscow wanted a political settlement of the Gulf crisis.

"In the course of a long conversation it was emphasised that the Soviet Union is working actively for a political settlement of the crisis, meaning the return to the situation which existed before Aug. 2," the correspondent said.

Earlier, the Iraqi news agency (INA) reported Primakov had met Saddam and given him a letter from the Soviet leader, but gave no more details of their meeting.

(Continued on page 4)

region.

PLO Executive Committee member Abdullah Hourani said that Primakov emphasised the linkage between a solution for the Gulf crisis and an overall settlement in the Middle East.

The PLO official said that Primakov was received by His Majesty King Hussein and met with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who made a short stop over here on his

(Continued on page 4)

U.S. budget hits trouble

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House of Representatives ignored pleas from President George Bush and congressional leaders and rejected a \$500-billion deficit-reduction plan early Friday. The White House said the president would not support an emergency spending bill to keep the government operating.

The president scheduled an afternoon cabinet meeting "to discuss the budget and the possible shutdown of the government later in the day, made the following points during his press conference.

"We have carried a personal message from Saddam Hussein to His Majesty King Hussein."

"We have, together with the rest of the Arab brothers to increase the efforts for better conditions for a peaceful solution and an open dialogue about the entire problems of the region, including what was called the Gulf problem."

Fitzwater said that the president was disappointed with the vote early Friday but remained firm in his opposition to a short-term spending bill.

He said the president was hopeful that Congress would take another try Friday at passing a five-year \$500-billion deficit-reduction bill.

On Capitol Hill, leaders prepared to rush an emergency spending bill through Congress to keep the government operating.

However, Fitzwater said that Bush had decided that if Congress sends him such a bill — he would simply ignore it, neither signing it nor vetoing it.

In the house vote, lawmakers rebelled at proposed increases in medicare costs for retirees and consumer tax increases — on gasoline, tobacco and alcohol.

"This is a sad night for the house, for our political system and for America," Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, said after the vote. "Our president has asked us to pull together. Too many of my colleagues have given him the back of their hands."

Only 71 Republicans supported the agreement.

Iraq ready to accept international legitimacy if applied all over Mideast

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iraq is ready to accept international legitimacy in the Gulf crisis if all U.N. Security Council resolutions on other issues in the Middle East — the Palestinian and Lebanon problems — are implemented simultaneously, Iraqi Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan said Thursday.

Ramadan, who arrived here Wednesday and held separate talks with His Majesty King Hussein and Japanese Prime Minister Toshiaki Kaifu Thursday before flying home later in the day, made the following points during his press conference.

"We have carried a personal message from Saddam Hussein to His Majesty King Hussein."

"We have, together with the rest of the Arab brothers to increase the efforts for better conditions for a peaceful solution and an open dialogue about the entire problems of the region, including what was called the Gulf problem."

"It is a small open window but it gives us hope especially as it comes from a country we think has good intentions. It could be developed.

(Continued on page 4)

Iraq accuses U.S. of precipitating world war to gain control of oil

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Iraq Friday accused the United States and its allies of bringing "the entire world to the brink of a devastating war" in their quest to gain control of the Middle East's oil.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz prepared the address to the General Assembly, which an Iraqi diplomat was scheduled to deliver Friday evening. It was circulated to news media prior to delivery.

Aziz did not come to New York to deliver the speech personally, as he has in past years, because the United States denied landing rights for the plane the Iraqi delegation has used in the past, proposing instead that Aziz take a commercial flight.

Iraq's permanent representative to the United Nations, Abdul Amir Al Anbari, was scheduled to deliver the speech Friday evening. But he suffered a severe nosebleed Thursday evening and there were reports that

he had to leave the assembly hall.

The speech rejected claims that the United States and its allies, who have massed a large military force in the Gulf and mobilised diplomatic pressure against Iraq, including mandatory sanctions, are acting in defence of international law and the U.N. Charter.

The speech asked why they have not taken similar action on other unresolved issues, such as the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He said the whole Middle East "is seething with anger and tension with explosive problems," as it was before August 1973 wars.

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"Arabs and Muslims look to Jerusalem which is much more important spiritually than Kuwait and half the Arab World. How can Arabs and

(Continued on page 4)

Iraq said to have nuclear-equivalent explosives

LOS ANGELES (Agencies) — Iraq has high-explosive devices that pack the equivalent destructive power of small nuclear bombs, a newspaper reported Friday.

The fuel-air explosives, or FAEs, have 10 times the power of conventional explosives and create a huge fireball and shock wave over a concentrated area, without the radiation fallout associated with nuclear weapons, the Los Angeles Times reported.

"It's not your garden-variety weapon," said Henry Sokolski of the Pentagon's international security affairs office. "These are blast-effect weapons, and what you can't see can kill you."

Military officials say the United States has no ready defense against the explosives that could devastate oil fields, air bases and troops, the newspaper reported.

FAEs can be launched as bombs from airplanes or as warheads on missiles.

Pentagon officials said U.S.

forces would have the most difficulty defending against a missile-delivered warhead, but there is

no clear evidence Iraq has the ability to mount the explosives on

missiles.

Senators John Glenn and Jesse Helms are among five senators who have requested in a letter to Defense Secretary Dick Cheney that he launch an investigation to determine Iraq's supply of FAEs.

The Times said earlier reports indicated Iraq received the scientific knowledge to build these weapons from the German arms industry.

A major German aerospace and defence firm, Messerschmitt-Bolkow-Blohm, conducted feasibility studies on an FAE device as part of a missile project with the Egyptian government. That project was terminated in 1988, said company spokesman Willie Vogler.

At a news conference to mark the publication Thursday of the institute's latest assessment of the world's armed forces, ITSS experts said that apart from Iraq's seven elite Republican Guard divisions, the rest of the army was fairly mediocre.

According to reports from the BBC and Der Spiegel, a German magazine, Egypt gave the studies to Iraq.

An unidentified congressional investigator told the Times that U.S. technology may have been involved as well, although the United States does not carry FAEs in its own arsenal.

The weapons are currently in the arsenals of the Soviet Union, Israel, China, France, West Ger-

many, Spain, and perhaps some

New laws spawn exodus of Yemenis from S. Arabia

AL KHOBAR (AP) — Qaid Seif Mohammad, a Yemeni who owns two clothing stores in Saudi Arabia, thinks he will be back in his native land farming coffee and the narcotic qat within a month.

"I wish I could stay here and make money, but I don't think I'll be able to," he said Thursday.

Under Saudi Arabia's tough residence laws for Yemenis announced Sept. 20, labourers have to find a local sponsor by the end of October or they can not get a residence permit. Those with trading licences have three months.

The law was enacted as Yemen underwent criticism for not appearing willing to help Iraq evade a U.N.-imposed trade embargo.

Saudi officials said the push to register the Yemenis is just a precaution in case trouble develops in the community.

"The Yemenis are potentially destabilising. There are just so many of them," said another Western diplomat.

Up to now Yemenis have had almost the same rights as Saudis, allowed to cross the border without visas and set up businesses without local sponsors. No other foreign communities enjoy those freedoms.

Customs officials said earlier this week that at least 100,000 had crossed the southern border so far.

The roads in southern provinces like Abha are full of cars and small buses piled with cloth bundles and the gaudily painted u-haul trucks the country is famous for.

Yemenis think up to half the community of one million will go home.

"The kingdom is disposing of

us," said Abdo, another clothing seller in Saudi Arabia for the past 15 years.

Saudi officials, while publicly denying claims they are pushing the Yemenis across the border, speak harshly of their southern neighbour in private.

"Why should we help a country who is against us," said one official.

Aside from taking in Yemeni labourers, Saudi officials said Riyadh paid for half of Yemen's annual budget, serviced the airplanes of Yemenia Airways for free and underwrote schools, hospitals and roads.

Billions in aid and remittances in jeopardy.

The government in Sanaa, capital of the country that united just last May, was slow in condemning Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait and it tolerated anti-Saudi sentiments.

That attitude has begun to change, with Yemenis voting last week for the air blockade and not announcing a visit Tuesday by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz.

Yemen said it stands to lose \$1.6 billion by respecting the sanctions, as Iraqi oil can no longer be processed at the Aden refinery.

Diplomats and Saudi officials expect Egyptians will benefit most from the rift. Egypt is clearly worried about the hundreds of thousands of workers from Iraq and Kuwait pouring back into its ailing economy.

"Half a million Egyptians in Saudi Arabia can earn more than the two million in Baghdad," said one Saudi source.

Yemenis interviewed at random tend to be more critical of their own government than that in Saudi Arabia, fearing poverty

in the slow job market at home.

Most cannot understand why the government took a stand that would hurt small labourers economically.

"It has been extremely represented by Yemenis here," said one prominent member of the community. "We enjoyed a lot of privileges."

Many point out that the feuding between the two sides has been going on for centuries and is apparently entering another rough patch.

Bombs exploded in Riyadh in the 1960s when Saudi Arabis supported Yemeni royalists in a civil war.

Most of the southern provinces of Saudi Arabia have only been part of the kingdom since 1934 under the treaty of Taif, and the borders between the two countries is notoriously porous.

In southern Najran province, Saudi police forces are constantly trying to stem the flow of alcohol and khat, a narcotic leaf chewed for its numbing effect, smuggled over the border.

The fighting between the two sides predates Islam.

In the sixth century the people of the Najran were Christians, a faith introduced by merchants plying the spice routes.

In 525, King Thon Nawas, a Jew from Yemen, invaded to try to force them to renounce their conversions. The holdouts were burned alive in a ditch and the remnants of their city still visible just outside the city of Najran.

Many tribes in Saudi Arabia can trace their roots back to Yemen.

Said one senior provincial official: "Sometimes the feuds between brothers are harsher than those between non-brothers."

"The kingdom is disposing of

Rebels claim control of Afghan city

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Islamic green flags belonging to insurgents flew from buildings in the capital of war-weary Afghanistan's Urugan province Friday after rebels claimed to have captured the city.

Insurgents reportedly overran Terin Kot, about 300 kilometres south of Kabul, after several days of fierce fighting, said Hamid Karzai, a guerrilla spokesman.

The report could not be independently confirmed.

The assault against government troops defending Terin Kot was launched by guerrillas of several different rebel groups headquartered in Pakistan.

For more than a dozen years

rebel fighters, bankrolled by the United States, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and other sympathetic Arab states, have been fighting to topple Kabul's Communist-style government.

Insurgents reportedly control much of the countryside but have been ineffective in destroying government defences around most cities.

For several months Moscow and Washington have been trying to hammer out an agreement to end the bloody fighting that has seemingly escalated in recent weeks.

They are reportedly "close" to an accord that calls for elections in the war-ravaged nation. The

United States, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and other sympathetic Arab states, have been fighting to topple Kabul's Communist-style government.

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Earlier this week 61 people died and scores more were injured in successive rocket attacks on the Afghan capital.

Kabul Radio regularly blames insurgents of indiscriminately rocketing residential areas. Guerrilla leaders claim only military targets are hit, although they admit rockets are often misfired.

Aoun has rejected Hrawi's election last November in line with an Arab League-brokered peace accord to end the nation's civil war.

Aoun has said the peace accord, worked out by Lebanese legislators under Arab League auspices in the Saudi Arabian town of Taif last October, did not reflect the free will of Lebanese representatives.

The report said Israel's defence forces have accepted they cannot quell the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip which began in December 1987.

Thousands of foreign workers remain in Iraq

NICOSIA (AP) — Nearly two months after most of the world cut off trade with Iraq, hundreds of thousands of foreign workers continue to keep the country's industries and construction on track.

Among them are Soviet oil field technicians, Bangladeshi working in Kuwait military camps and Poles building roads, pipelines and railroads.

The stranded foreigners include 25 Portuguese stone masons who last month completed the marble finishing on a presidential palace, the Foreign Ministry in Lisbon said.

Most foreign-backed construction projects came to a halt in the wake of U.N. sanctions barring trade with Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2. Many Iraqi government construction plans have stopped as imports of materials were cut off.

But some 500,000 Bangladeshis, Egyptians, Indians, Pakistanis and Sri Lankans are still in Iraq and Kuwait. Many are being kept at their old jobs.

About 2,000 Bangladeshis are working in Iraqi military camps in Kuwait, a Foreign Ministry official said Wednesday.

About 4,500 Soviets in Iraq are key workers in the oil industry.

"The Iraqis are now dependent on these oil people," a foreign source in Baghdad said Thursday.

"If they go, no one else will come in to operate these fields."

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuri Gremitskikh told reporters Tuesday that "regrettably, the Iraqi authorities clearly show tardiness in considering the documents submitted by the Soviet side to issue an exit permit for several groups of specialists."

While most foreigners in Iraq and Kuwait have no choice but to remain, some choose to stay, preferring to earn wages than face uncertain job outlooks back home.

Their governments disagree on whether the labourers who continue to work are violating the United Nations embargo on trade with Iraq.

Many Third World labourers working projects that were halted have been diverted to agriculture as Iraq seeks food self-sufficiency

to foil the trade embargo, a source in Baghdad said.

And some foreigners, while not forced to remain as "guests" by the Iraqi government, are encountering enormous difficulty in leaving the country.

A plane with 173 Brazilians, mainly weapons technicians and skilled construction workers, left Baghdad Wednesday after weeks of appeals and visits by high-ranking Brazilian officials.

Eighty-two Brazilians are still stranded in Iraq.

"It is not in their interest that people who have signed contracts should now leave Iraq. This fact can be observed while settling visa formalities," said Wladyslaw Kaczynski, spokesman for Poland's Foreign Ministry.

She said the status of a Dutch dredging project in southern Iraq, employing 104 Dutch citizens, is unclear.

Iraq refused to allow the project to stop in compliance with the embargo, the spokeswoman said, and there is speculation in the Netherlands that the dredgers are being forced to work.

The Iraqis are slow about giving exit visas, delaying but not preventing the workers from leaving. A European diplomat

said this week.

Several hundred Bulgarians remain in Iraq as well as 66 Czechoslovaks, of whom 30 are working on an irrigation project.

Of the nearly 10,000 Yugoslavs

engaged on construction projects in pre-invasion Iraq, less than 200 remain, reportedly engaged on the completion of a hydroelectric project.

For the past decade, China's sending of state-arranged contractual construction workers abroad has generated considerable profits.

Although China supports the U.N. sanctions, recent television footage seen in the Gulf region shows Chinese workers busy to work at construction sites in Iraq.

A Romanian Foreign Ministry official said that 630 Romanians remain in Iraq.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Teodor Melescanu told reporters the Romanians in Iraq could not be assured of food or necessary medicine under the present conditions in Iraq. He said Romania

had launched an appeal at the U.N. for help for them.

At the outbreak of the Gulf crisis there were 3,055 Romanians in Iraq working on various projects.

Iraq was a major trading partner with Romania before Bueahar joined the U.N. embargo. Officials here have estimated the cost of the move to Romania at \$2.9 billion — the highest in Eastern Europe.

The figure includes \$1.7 billion in suspended debt repayment and \$1.2 billion in suspended contracts.

Deputy Foreign Minister Romulus Neagu returned this week from a 13-day trip to the Gulf region, in which he met with government leaders in Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates as President Ion Iliescu's envoy.

A Foreign Ministry statement said that Saudi Arabia and Qatar reacted "extremely favourably" to the idea of establishing diplomatic ties with Romania.

Iraq has deployed at least six Al-Husayn launchers to an airfield close to an area commonly known as H-2 ... in the western Iraqi desert from where targets throughout Syria and most of Israel can be engaged."

It said the Egyptian army has received 700 U.S. M-60A1 tanks.

Skirmishes in E. Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — Rival Christian forces skirmished with machine guns in east Beirut overnight and a sergeant loyal to rebel General Michel Aoun was killed in the clash, police said Friday.

A pro-Syrian Muslim leader called on Aoun to turn over his 207-square-kilometre enclave to the government of President Elias Hrawi to facilitate ending Lebanon's 15-year-old civil war.

But Aoun hardened his stance by demanding the resignation of Hrawi, who has ordered a blockade of the rebel general's enclave since last Sunday.

"The blockade is a step in the march to end Aoun's militancy," said Abdallah Al Amri, leader of the Organisation of the Arab Baath Socialist Party, Lebanon's chapter of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad's ruling party.

Syria is the main power broker in Lebanon with 40,000 troops deployed in predominantly Muslim regions under a 1976 peacekeeping mandate from the Arab League.

"If the blockade failed to eliminate the mutiny, then the government will have to take the second step which is ending the mutiny through military means," Amri told the newspaper Al Liwa.

But the pro-Syrian leader left the door open for a peaceful settlement with the rebel general.

"Were we not assured... during the debate on the Afghan adventure that in future any decision on sending Soviet military units overseas would be taken only with the approval of parliament?"

The 1979 Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan was decided in secret by four top communist leaders. The war lasted nine years, costing thousands of lives and leaving a deep scar in Soviet political life.

Soyuz, fiercely opposed to radical reform and committed to preservation of the Soviet Union, recalled that Iraq had threatened measures against any country in-

Soviet deputies denounce Shevardnadze on policy

MOSCOW (R) — Hardline Soviet parliamentary deputies denounced Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze Friday and said any dispatch of troops to the Gulf would make the Soviet Union a target for Iraqi missile attack.

The "Soyuz" (union) group accused Shevardnadze of overstepping his authority in New York last week by declaring Moscow was willing to send troops under auspices of the United Nations.

"Who sanctioned Shevardnadze's statement?" Soyuz, which claims 458 deputies in the 2,000-strong congress, asked.

"Were we not assured... during the debate on the Afghan adventure that in future any decision on sending Soviet military units overseas would be taken only with the approval of parliament?"

"This means that Iraqi rockets, armed with bacteriological and chemical warheads, would not be fired at the U.S. and Britain, which are thousands of kilometers (miles) from the conflict zone, but against our territory, against the Transcaucasus, the northern Caucasus region and Central Asia," the statement said.

"Does the person who took the decision on participation of a Soviet military contingent in possible military operations in the Gulf have any idea of the consequences of such actions?" Soyuz asked.

Irani territory lies only about 500 kilometres from Soviet territory.

The build-up of Soviet forces in the area has already drawn expressions of concern from hardline Soviet military officials, who charge that Washington plans a long-term stationing of troops there.

Shevardnadze said Soviet troops could be sent to the Gulf only as part of a U.N. peacekeeping force. Some 300,000 soldiers, chiefly American, are already deployed there.

But the Soviet Union still publicly rules out direct military action against Iraq.

It said military service there continues to erode training standards among Israeli troops and undermine morale.

Elsewhere, the institute said in its section on the Middle East that both Iran and Iraq continued to rebuild their forces following the end of the Gulf war in 1988.

The report, written before Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait, said Iraq's new acquisitions included 12 Soviet-made MiG-29 fighter planes this year.

"(Iraq's) ballistic missile development has been relatively successful with the 900-km range Al-Abbas (missile) and the 600-km Al-Husayn having been deployed and five other types under development," the report said.

"Iraq has deployed at least six Al-Husayn launchers to an airfield close to an area commonly known as H-2 ... in the western Iraqi desert from where targets throughout Syria and most of Israel can be engaged."

It said the Egyptian army has received 700 U.S. M-60A1 tanks.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

170,000 Saudis volunteer for army

Riyadh (R) — About 170,000 Saudis have volunteered for military training in urban warfare tactics, while thousands more are listed for civil defence operations, a senior government official said Friday. Saudi Arabia called for volunteers following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and fears of an attack on the kingdom, where tens of thousands of Western and Arab troops have been deployed. The official told Reuters the number of Saudis who expressed willingness to enlist as volunteers had exceeded all expectations. "The number of volunteers recorded in various parts of the kingdom has reached some 170,000 people," he said. He noted that the figure did not include thousands of other Saudis men for training in civil defence and women in first aid and nursing. Prince Mohammad Ben Fahd Ben Abdul Aziz, governor of the kingdom's Eastern Province adjacent to Kuwait, said earlier this week that his country might introduce conscription. He was speaking to reporters after the graduation of a first group of 456 Eastern Province volunteers — aged between 14 and 71.

Japan may withdraw Iraq invitation

TOKYO (R) — Japan may withdraw its invitation to Iraq to attend next month's enthronement of Emperor Akihito, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said

Home News

Water rationing to end

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Water and Irrigation Daoud Khalaf said on Jordan Television that the water distribution programme which was introduced at the beginning of the summer, 1990, could end by Oct. 31.

The programme is introduced normally in May and runs throughout the summer in view of the expected increase in water consumption during the hot season on the one hand and the presence in Jordan of large numbers of expatriates spending the holiday here on the other.

The minister's statement coincided with an announcement by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation that there would be a new rate for water prices in Jordan aimed at charging higher price from those consuming more than 70 cubic metres of water every three months.

The announcement said that in accordance with the new rates, which became effective as of the beginning of October, 100 fils will be charged for the consumption of 1 to 20 cubic metres, 190 fils for 21 to 40 metres, 400 fils for 41 to 70 metres, 500 fils for 71 to 100 metres, and 600 fils for more than these amounts in the Amman Governorate.

The announcement indicated that the rate would be lower for other governorates and still lower for residents of the Jordan Valley region.

Those to be affected by the higher prices represent only 10 per cent of the Amman residents as well as business companies and other organisations, according to

the announcement.

According to the minister, those consuming less than 70 cubic metres of water in three months will not be affected by the new set of rates.

In a statement last July, Khalaf said that Jordan was seeking new sources of water because the annual needs of water for drinking and irrigation purposes amount to 755 million cubic metres, with the needs growing every year.

The Ministry of Water and Irrigation expects domestic consumption (water at homes) to rise to 260 million by the year 2005, up from the present 180 million, the minister said in May 1990 when the water distribution programme was put into effect.

Ministry of Water and Irrigation's Secretary-General Mutazz Al Bilbeisi said in May that Jordan was expected to face sharp shortages of water supply in the near future and was turning its attention to the prospects of benefiting from non-traditional water resources.

Like recycling treated waste water to be used in farming, desalination of water and the utilisation of water to be collected from Yarmouk River.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran had instructed the Ministry of Water and Irrigation to declare 1991 as the "year of water" for Jordan and said that the ministry's teams of experts should conduct a thorough study of Jordan's water resources and build 10 earth dams to collect water.

Produce prices drop

after Saudi Arabia's ban

By Maha Addasi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A general survey conducted by the Jordan Times showed that the prices of fruit and vegetables in Jordan's market have dropped by around 30 per cent as a result of Saudi Arabia's ban on trucks carrying Jordanian produce to the Gulf states.

An informed source at the Ministry of Agriculture said that the ban would affect farmers' most as there is a surplus in the supply of vegetables locally.

"Farmers are the hardest hit in this situation," the source said. "These farmers have to face both the negative effects of lowered profits and the need to deal with the tremendous amounts of perishable goods that can not be absorbed by the local market."

To muffle the blow as much as possible, the tomato paste processing plant in Arida was reopened by the Ministry of Agriculture, Tuesday.

"The plant is offering farmers the chance to sell tomatoes at higher prices than the market prices," said Saad Al-Zaheed, an economist from the Ministry of Agriculture. "But we don't know what to do with the other varieties of goods."

Ministry of Agriculture is looking for alternative foreign markets in Europe and Africa, but meanwhile local consumers, with the balance tipped in their favour price-wise, are now getting "more for less" from the local groceries.

"Instead of buying one kilo, the consumer now buys four," Mubarak Darweesh, a grocer in Irbid, said. "But the disadvantage now is that with the lower prices we have less liquidity."

Another grocer, Ahmed Al Shabaki, said that his grocery

store, like all small stores, was not financially affected by the ban.

On a larger monetary level, the ban will lead to reduced amounts of hard currency in Jordan, which will reflect negatively on the Jordanian economy, leading to yet more adverse results, according to Al-Zaheed. He also said that the truck-drivers' wages can no longer be paid, so they would become unemployed.

"According to press reports here, the trucks that were returned from Saudi Arabia took their goods to the central market in Jordan, but because of the increased supply and the decreased demand, the prices there dropped to half what they used to be."

An informed source there said that although the central market tries to make the selling procedure easier, it does not have any immediate solutions, but emphasise the need for alternative markets.

An official at the Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO), expressed hope that the ban was only temporary.

"The possible alternative is the European market, he said, which presently consumes only one per cent of our exported fruit and vegetables," he said.

Saudi Arabia, alone, in the Gulf market consumed 50 per cent, estimated at JD 130 million every year.

Al-Zaheed said that contacts at high official level are taking place to find a solution for this problem.

News reports Friday said that the Saudi Arabian Embassy here had given some truck drivers passes to pass through Saudi Arabia's territory to reach the Gulf market.

"Meanwhile," Al Zaheed said, "we have to wait and hope this measure is reversed."

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zureh displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- * Archaeological exhibition entitled "Al Lajun — a Roman Frontier Fort" at the Department of Antiquities' Registration and Research Centre, Jabal Amman.
- * Plastic art exhibition by Jordanian artists Maha and Ahmad Al Syouf at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- * Plastic art exhibition by four Palestinian artists depicting the suffering of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation at the Jordan National Gallery for Fine Arts.

FILMS

- * German film entitled "Abrechnung?" at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.
- * French film entitled "Richard et Coeur de Lion" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

UNDRO official tours evacuate camps amid criticism at lack of donations from Western governments

Japan honours pledge to evacuees

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation (UNDRO) coordinator, under-secretary general Essafi, who toured evacuate camps in Jordan Thursday, has scheduled a press conference Saturday to discuss the conditions at the camps and the U.N.-sponsored relief operations as well as repatriation processes.

Essafi, who is on a several-day tour to Jordan, visited evacuees in the camps and was briefed on assistance given them by the Jordanian government with the help of international organisations.

His visit to the Kingdom comes amid criticism at lack of donations from Western governments although an UNDRO official said that the organisation had mobilised \$35 million mainly from Japanese contributions.

UNDRO, which is overseeing

relief efforts, said it urgently needed \$1 million to pay for food and shelter for desperate Asians crossing from Iraq into Iran.

A statement by UNDRO said from the nearly \$34 million promised to the organisation by the end of last week only the Japanese government had paid in full. Tokyo, it said, has given \$20 million to the U.N. agency.

Meanwhile Japan has sent a chartered passenger aircraft to transport Asian evacuees stranded in Jordan back to their home country.

The chartered plane arrived at Amman's Queen Alia International Airport Friday to transport the evacuees, airport officials said.

According to the Japanese Embassy here, the plane brought to Jordan 20,000 relief rations of hard biscuit provided by the government of Japan to be handed

over through the World Food Programme (WFP) to the government of Jordan.

The plane carried 15 volunteers who will engage in relief activities related to evacuees in Jordan. According to an embassy statement, the plane also carried three tonnes of relief materials including canned food, powdered milk, blankets and other supplies.

Japan Airlines and All Nippon Airways on September 19 operated two flights to Amman to repatriate 600 Philippine evacuees.

The Public Security Department announced that a total of 14,581 evacuees arrived in Jordan Thursday and that 15,143 left the country. The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) reported that 7,310 evacuees left Thursday by air on board 32 unscheduled flights.

Private university — a chance to study, spend money at home

By Serene Halasa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A plan to open six new private universities was undertaken by the Council of Higher Education in August 1989 with the aim of absorbing the high numbers of students seeking higher education, and of taking off some of the pressure from the four existing government-owned universities.

The Amman University College, that started teaching in Sept. 1990, is the first of these private universities opening in Jordan. Another university, the Jordanian Girls University College, is still under construction and will start its academic year in Sept. 1991.

"The private sector felt the need to establish such universities to give students a chance to study in their own country," Mazen Ansari, the engineer and planner of the Jordanian Girls University College told the Jordan Times.

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whether to exempt the student of credits or not," Dheiyat said.

Asked how long the process will take, Dheiyat said it depended on the board of review. "People have to understand that we are a new university and we still have many problems to get over but we will try our hardest to satisfy and meet the demands of our students," he added.

A transferred student, who preferred anonymity, told the Jordan Times that she believed the system was unfair. "By the time the board of review reaches a decision, it would be too late. The transfer student might have taken courses at the university that the board had decided to exempt. This means that this student would have wasted time and money, I believe, that transfer students should have their transcript reviewed immediately to avoid such complications," the student said.

"Some students interviewed by the Jordan Times said they believed that a tuition of JD 2,000 per year was a lot.

"I do not think the tuition is high, especially when it is the only source of income for the university. Aside from that, the university, being a private one, does not get any government subsidy, and is not exempt from paying what we call university taxes," Dheiyat explained.

He also added that financial rewards would be granted to those students excelling in their studies. "We will not have any grants, but I believe that financial rewards given to students based on academic excellence will serve as a great motivation and will lead to competition," Dheiyat said.

Dheiyat also added that he did not believe the tuition would go up in the near future, but "nothing is certain especially with the continuous changing economic situation in the country."

Asked about the transfer students (especially those studying abroad), who for financial or other reasons decided to enroll in the university, the dean said that a board of review would be the determining factor in accepting these students and their credit hours at the previous university.

"The board of review is the basic academic unit in any university, it will review the students' transcripts at the previous university the student attended, and will decide

whether to exempt the student of credits or not," Dheiyat said.

The university will specialise in sciences (maths, biology, chemistry and computer), business administration, management, banking, hospital management, accounting, economics, statistics, insurance, and computer sciences. It will grant the bachelor degree to its graduates; and eventually will consider starting a masters and doctorate programmes in the future.

Another project underway is the Jordanian Girls University College. "We decided to have an all girls university, to meet the demands of parents who prefer to send their daughters to all girls schools, whether for religious or other reasons. Also some experts feel that girls tend to do better and show less shyness when they are surrounded by females than when they are put in a mixed crowd," Mazen Ansari said.

Asked about the tuition, Ansari said nothing had been decided yet but he believed it would be around JD 2,000.

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Brotherhood holds pro-Iraqi rally

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House of Parliament Deputy Abdal Mun'im Abu Zant said Friday Muslims would attack the interest of the United States and its allies if they launched an aggression against Iraq.

Addressing a public rally organised by the Muslim Brotherhood in Al Nasr district in Amman, following noon prayers, he said

the forces surrounding Iraq did not come to defend any state in the region or because of oil, but to protect Israel and destroy the Arab and Islamic force.

Speaking at the rally was also Dr. Ahmad Nofal who said that "while the Muslims were celebrating Prophet Mohammad's birthday the Islamic holy shrines were being surrounded by enemies.

The rally, which was held to voice support for the Palestinian uprising and backing Iraq, was attended by more than 4,000 people.

The bulletin said that the volume of trading during Sept. 1990 amounted to JD 9,304,254 compared to JD 33,333,147 in September of last year, registering a decline of 72.1 per cent.

The bulletin said that the total shares traded last month were 5,254,107 against 16,009,002 in

the same month of last year, a drop of 67.2 per cent.

The industrial sector, however, accounted for the highest shares traded in the past month, totalling JD 4,473,740 in value, followed by the banks and financial companies with a value of JD 3,433,805.

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Shares go down in AFM

AMMAN (J.T.) — A statistical bulletin issued by the Amman Financial Market (AFM) was a clear indication of a slump in the volume of shares of various companies traded in Jordan in the past month and pointing to the economic difficulties in the country.

Nofal also reviewed the dangers inherent in the Soviet-Jewish immigration to the occupied Arab territories and called for stopping it by all means.

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Jordan Times

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Hurd inches closer

BRITISH Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd's remarks on the Middle East on Thursday should be viewed as a constructive and positive change in London's attitudes towards the crisis in the Gulf and the problems in the region generally.

Coming as they have, in the aftermath of some uncompromising positions taken by Mrs. Thatcher earlier on, the remarks strengthen our hope that the crisis may be finally moving towards a political settlement, having nearly led to and in fact continues to threaten a devastating military confrontation.

Mr. Hurd, not long ago, was saying that the take-over of Kuwait "made it more difficult (for) a just solution to the Palestine problem and to the needs of the Palestinians."

For him to be saying now, however, that a solution to the Palestinian problem should be found urgently is a welcome admission on his part of the West's own shortcoming in understanding the true sources of conflict in the area.

While it is true that the foreign secretary did not directly agree to linking the Gulf crisis to the Palestinian question, he nevertheless took an important step towards making that link, by harshly criticising Israel's intransigence and its repressive measures in the occupied territories against the Palestinians. In his address to the diplomatic and Commonwealth writers' association, Mr. Hurd challenged Israel to be prepared with "fresh thinking" for round table talks with Arabs.

Only a few hours earlier, the Iraqi deputy prime minister, Mr. Taha Yassin Ramadan, was making it clear in Amman that his country too respected international legitimacy and was willing to implement all U.N. resolutions if the other parties and the international community were willing and ready to do the same thing. Mr. Ramadan's statement was unambiguous in the sense that Iraq, in accepting international legitimacy, was prepared for withdrawal from Kuwait, just as Britain, the U.S. and the rest of the world wanted Baghdad to do, albeit only under the conditions of the departure of foreign forces from the Gulf and the linkage with the Palestinian problem.

Secretary Hurd's statement, following presidents Mitterrand and Bush's positive speeches to the U.N. and Iraq's constructive attitudes towards them, should thus be viewed as another step towards dialogue and political solutions to the region's problems. It is a welcome departure from the jingoistic language that we have been consistently subjected to until very recently.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL Ra'i newspaper Friday welcomed a tendency on the part of the world community to find a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis and said that Jordan has been seeking such development from the beginning of the crisis in August. The paper noted that the prime minister of Japan and the president of the Soviet Union have both expressed their belief that the crisis can only be resolved through political means rather than armed conflict, and said that this clearly reflects a consensus that mediation efforts should be doubled to achieve the aspirated goals. The paper said that Jordan had supported the Iraqi initiative of Aug. 12 which is the only feasible way out of the deadlock since it entails a linkage between the Gulf crisis and the Palestine question, and calls for a package deal that would ensure peace for all parties in the region. The Gulf crisis and the Palestine question are closely connected since they both belong to the same area and involve parties which have direct links with the Gulf and Arab-Israeli disputes. The U.N. Security Council has issued resolutions concerning the Gulf crisis and the Palestine question, and, therefore, this council should address both problems since international legality can not be divisible and as long as the world community wish to see justice established, the paper said. The paper said that Jordan which has been exposed to unjust and hostile campaigns for supporting Iraq's peace initiative is now finding support for its ideas designed to end the crisis by peaceful means.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily noted that the Gulf crisis has brought to the fore once again the Palestine question and focused the world public attention on Israel's continued occupation of the Arab land of Palestine. This crisis has also revived the idea of Arab unity, despite the series of set-backs over the past 40 years to achieve that goal and helped end the Iranian-Iraqi hostilities, says Fahd Al Fanek. The writer also points to the fact that the crisis brought to the surface many of the ills which plagued the Arab League, destroyed the Arab Cooperation Council which grouped Iraq, Egypt, Yemen and Jordan and exposed to the masses the real nature of certain Arab regimes which have now lost all credibility for their attitudes with regard to the Gulf issue. He also says that the crisis focused the Arab masses' attention on the Saddam rulers of Kuwait who have squandered the nation's wealth and disregarded other Arab countries' views concerning national causes. The writer expresses the view that the Gulf crisis will last for a long time, since neither of the two protagonists: the U.S. and Iraq knows in advance the moves of the other side, and can be expected to come with unpredictable actions.

Al Dustour Arabic daily pays tribute to the Jordanian diplomacy spearheaded by His Majesty King Hussein for its success in attracting world leaders' attention to the peace option with regard to the Gulf crisis. The series of meetings and discussions over the past few days in Amman has proved Jordan's sound views and its far sightedness despite the lapse of two months of Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and despite the onslaught of hostile campaigns directed against this country, the paper noted. Jordan's leadership, said the paper, has chosen the right path and has been showing the way to others solely to avert any conflict in the region and to safeguard the Arab Nation's best interests. The paper noted that world leaders and governments have now realised the sound and wise policies of Jordan in handling the Gulf crisis and are falling in line with it.

The U.S. wakes to a Puritan hangover

WASHINGTON (R) — Like a drinker after a decade-long binge, the United States is awakening to an era of lower expectations, tighter budgets, blander art — and signs of a return to the Puritan values on which the nation was founded.

Such staples of the 1980s — often termed the "me-decade" — as insider trading, deficit spending and three-martini lunches are still around, but now they are frowned upon by the federal government.

Where the powerful once made the aptly named Sans Souci restaurant a deal-making hangout, now White House staff take pride in eating at the new status place: "Chez Desk". Sans Souci's doors are long closed, and some of the capital's expense-account places have scaled back menus to fit the new fiscal climate.

President George Bush himself could qualify as "first Puritan". He may holiday in Maine and vote in Texas, but the president seems a Connecticut Yankee at heart, dedicated to family, public service and a shabby casual wardrobe that has earned scorn from men's fashion magazines.

Gone is the glitz of Reagan years, replaced by an age that could be embodied by David Souter, the scholarly, ascetic — some say eccentric — new Hampshire judge whose confirmation to the Supreme Court seems assured.

The 51-year-old bachelor jurist is opposed by advocates of AIDS victim Robert Mapplethorpe were uncere-

moniously booted from the capital's Corcoran Gallery.

The patently misogynist lyrics of the rap group 2 Live Crew and the allegedly satanic suggestions of the heavy metal band Judas Priest have been attacked in the courts.

And in response to public pressure, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) said it had a duty to society and a right under the constitution to ban indecent broadcasts 24 hours a day, instead of just before 8 p.m.

Business flourished, fortunes were made in foreign trade, speculation and through monopolies that the king conferred on his favourites." Morison wrote of 17th century England in the Oxford History of the American People.

"The newly rich were buying up land, all prices were inflated, fixed incomes bought less and less... it was becoming increasingly difficult for the simple country gentleman or businessman to hang onto his land."

Lust and debauchery, decadent art and music were rejected by the original Puritans, and there are signs that they are being rejected in the 1990s, too — least officially.

The question of government funding for controversial art is still a hot issue in Washington, more than year after the homoerotic photographs of AIDS victim Robert Mapplethorpe were uncere-

moniously booted from the capital's Corcoran Gallery.

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The crackdown on lust in art is, in some parts of the U.S., being echoed in everyday life.

Authorities in one Connecticut town are arresting adulterous spouses under a so-called "blue law", a vestige of the Puritan code. About a dozen states have such anti-adultery laws,

but they have rarely been enforced.

"I'm fighting for the rights of the American family and marriage," one husband in Colchester, Connecticut, told a newspaper after he had his wife arrested when he found her in bed with another man.

The use of cocaine has always been outlawed, but in the early 1980s it was winked at as the drug of the moment. Now it is being recognised as a killer.

Another killer is the sexually transmitted disease AIDS, which had become so widespread by the end of the 1980s that promiscuous sex seems to have gone out of vogue.

With real crises to contend with, such as war looming in the Gulf and recession threatening at home, the Puritan trend towards caution, frugality and reliance on moral principles has undeniable appeal.

But Puritanism may be on the ascendency simply because the stars of the materialistic 1980s have left the public stage.

Donald Trump, once the billionaire king of New York real estate, keeps missing payments on an airline that bears his name. Ivan Boesky, arbitrage extraordinaire, was imprisoned for insider trading. Leona Helmsley, New York's hotel queen, was dethroned in a scandalous tax trial. Imelda Marcos, the shoe-loving widow of the ousted Philippine president, was last seen on her knees in church, thanking God for her acquittal on racketeering charges.

Good start for Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

interest rate and 30-year repayment period with a ten-year grace period.

So far in his Middle East tour, Kaifu has promised \$400 million to Egypt and \$250 million to Jordan and \$300 million to Turkey, bringing the total to \$950 million out of the \$2 billion package.

Kaifu said Tokyo would decide later who would receive the remaining money. Japan also extended \$500 million to Turkey in the form of a united trade insurance outside the framework of the emergency aid.

The spokesman said Kaifu told Prime Minister Mudar Badran during their meeting that Jordan should continue backing the U.N. embargo on trade with Iraq. "We hope you will continue to positively participate in the economic sanctions," Kaifu told Badran. Badran is still troubled economy would lose as much as \$1.1 billion this year and an estimated \$2.5 billion in 1991 as a direct result of compounding with the sanctions against Iraq, the spokesman said.

According to Badran, Jordan has contacted several oil companies in order to secure new supplies but "we are still waiting for a price list, ways to transport it and issues related to the matter." Jordan is still importing oil from Iraq at a concessionary price of \$16.4 a barrel compared to \$38-\$40 per barrel on the world market until it finds a feasible alternative source.

Badran said Jordan "will undertake several measures to ration energy and this issue was being studied by specialist and officials and will be announced as soon as the study is finalised."

Saudi Arabia had pledged to supply Jordan with 35,000 barrels of oil day — almost half of the Kingdom's daily requirements — as of Sept. 1. But Badran described Jordan's oil reserves as good and said would use them until the problem was resolved.

Saudi Arabia, in retaliation for Jordan's opposition to the foreign forces in the Gulf and pursuit of an Arab solution to the crisis, expelled Jordanian diplomats and stopped giving visas to Jordanians.

In response, Jordan closed its border for trucks heading for the Gulf states. Amman reopened its border after "there were contacts with Turkey, Syria... and we are still using quiet diplomacy to settle the issue," an official said.

Kaifu visit positive

(Continued from page 1)

242 in its entirety," he said.

Japanese officials said earlier Iraq had been asking for such a meeting since mid-September and Kaifu saw no reason to turn it down.

The talks had not been included in the advance schedule of Kaifu's week-long, five-nation tour of the region. They were announced in Cairo before he flew to Amman on the second leg.

The two countries' foreign ministers had been due to meet in New York last week during the United Nations General

Legitimacy all over Mideast

(Continued from page 1)

Muslims believe America and its allies are defending legitimacy when Holy Jerusalem and Palestine have been usurped for past 43 years without any calls to apply legitimacy.

In the name of legitimacy America is now defending corrupt rulers simply because of its desires and ambitions for hegemony over the oil wells. We know very well that America is basically aiming at hegemony on Gulf oil wells but we in Iraq and the Arab people and the good leaders of this nation will never accept that Arab fortunes should be for non-Arabs from now on.

"We say Kuwait is Iraq and British colonials split it from Iraq and this history is new and known to everyone. But if they claim that Kuwait is not Iraqi we ask, are Jerusalem, Palestine and the Golan Heights and South Lebanon not Arab? If so why are they not returned to the Arabs?

"We are confident that when U.S. hegemony is lifted the will for a peaceful solution exists in many countries, including Western Europe. Any solution by way of war will not be the interest of any country in the world, including Western European countries, but they will be the first to lose and the only beneficiary if there is one will be only the United States.

"We also say that American withdrawal from the area, from the land of Nejd and Hijaz, will pave the way for a solution of this problem and all the problems of the region. But the presence of these forces and the interference in Arab affairs cannot lead to any positive outcome for a dialogue or peaceful solution.

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"We are not concerned with Kuwait," he told journalists. "Kuwait is a province of Iraq and we will cut the leg of anyone who enters it without us wanting him to."

"We say frankly we prefer war to surrender and putting all the resources of our nation in foreign hands. If other Arab rulers have accepted this then we will not and nor will the good Arab masses and the evidence is the position of all the Arab peoples even in countries where their rulers have a different position.

"If the same condition is proposed for Israel to withdraw from all Arab territories we will accept the same condition to be proposed on the Iraqi side. And if that condition is not proposed we accept to discuss all these issues at the same table."

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"We are confident that when U.S. hegemony is lifted the will for a peaceful solution exists in many countries, including Western Europe. Any solution by way of war will not be the interest of any country in the world, including Western European countries, but they will be the first to lose and the only beneficiary if there is one will be only the United States.

"We also say that American withdrawal from the area, from the land of Nejd and Hijaz, will pave the way for a solution of this problem and all the problems of the region. But the presence of these forces and the interference in Arab affairs cannot lead to any positive outcome for a dialogue or peaceful solution.

"We are not concerned with Kuwait," he told journalists. "Kuwait is a province of Iraq and we will cut the leg of anyone who enters it without us wanting him to."

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Features



The house of the future: all functions at the push of a button

The house of the future

By Jacques Bardeneau

THE house of the year 2,000 can be visited today. It displays all the applications of new technologies applicable to the home. And it is not surprising that it is surrounded by information technology and business communication at "Infomart" (Paris, La Défense), a centre where over two hundred and fifty specialised firms permanently display the state of the matter.

It is because the house itself is full of automation, remote controls and high-definition screens. Right from the entrance, its video-porter greets the visitor, indicating his presence, and operates the camera which transmits his picture on video monitors, or shows it superimposed in a corner of the television screen.

Under the auspices of the APMF (Association for the

houses of the Future), some forty firms have joined together to present the systems and complementary products (all of which are already available), likely to improve everyday life, all together and in situation.

The house of the future contains some nine kilometres of coaxial cables and more than a hundred power, telephone or television points. It is linked to a cable and satellite networks by its dish antenna and is able to communicate with the whole world.

The house serves its master faithfully, even when he is out, by remote programming and Minitel. From a distance, the master is thus able to give orders: "close the shutters, open them, regulate the heating, keep intruders out and, soon, get the eggs and bacon going on the hot-plate, start the roast or turn on the

no-smell chip-frier."

When he is there, the house obeys his voice. When night falls, he does not need to go round the house to make sure all is well. He just has to think aloud and doors are locked and shutters closed, the fires go out and the temperature falls. The master's orders are carried out quickly and well, but not without good manners. The master's vanity is served with a "yes, master!"

All this meets the quest for security, convenience, time and, of course, comfort, such as that provided by the "shower temple" and its encircling jets of water.

This house looks ahead to a possible way of life when man, freed from the constraints of certain domestic tasks, would be able to cultivate his secret garden, or justify his "second cheque", that is to say a second

L'Actualité en France.

Weimar seeks revival as centre of German culture

By Paul Mindus
Reuter

WEIMAR, Germany — Weimar, a crumbling and polluted relic of its former glory as a centre of German culture and politics, is a town that sees its future in its past.

Acrid smoke from coal fires fills the air, gnawing away at statues of former residents such as Goethe and Schiller, adding to the air of decay in one of Germany's great cultural centres.

"East" German industry may collapse after the two Germanys merged on Oct. 3, but Weimar hopes to turn its 400-year heritage in art, music, literature and architecture — from Bach to the Bauhaus — into a tourist attraction and arts centre.

The town of 63,000, next to the Thuringian forest 320 km south of Berlin, became part of Germany's political history in 1919 when the national assembly adopted a constitution that became known as the Weimar Republic, which lasted until Hitler came to power in 1933.

"We think the future of Weimar is its history. The buildings may have a bad face now, but that can be fixed," said Berndt Mende, deputy director

of Weimar's council on historic sites, set up in June.

"We're really just at the beginning," said Hubert Amft, a book editor who became Weimar's director of tourism in August.

Weimar already plans a major arts festival next May or June with help from the unified German government, and a trade union guesthouse will be turned into a luxury 600-room private hotel by the end of 1991, Amft said.

"One problem is that we can't change heritage of 40 years of Communist rule in a short time," he added.

The town has only a handful of hotels, with threadbare clean rooms, and few restaurants. Telephone lines are bad and streets are in disrepair. Near the massive crumbling castle, park benches are just wooden planks on cinder blocks.

But Weimar still has a romantic air, with tree-lined squares and outdoor markets. New "West" German stores filled with colourful, stylish clothes have opened on streets next to the more drab eastern shops.

The town has impressive credentials to back its claim as "the capital of German mind".

The capital of a Duchy since 1547, it was home to Lucas Cranach, the 16th century German renaissance painter whose huge canvases are in the state art museum here. Johann Sebastian Bach was organist in the town in the early 1700s.

Germany's best-known authors, Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe and Friedrich Schiller, worked and lived in Weimar in the late 1700s and early 1800s. Their homes, badly damaged by bombs near the end of World War Two, have been restored.

Composers Franz Liszt and Richard Strauss worked here in the late 19th century. Weimar attracted architects and painters as a new fine arts centre in the early 1900s. Painters created a style known as the Weimar School.

After World War One, the Walter Gropius, Bauhaus school for art and architecture opened in Weimar with the painters Feininger, Klee and Kandinsky before moving to Berlin.

With so much German culture and history, Weimar drew three million tourists in 1989, making it "East" Germany's third largest tourist attraction after Berlin and Dresden.

But unification with "West" Germany opens the way for large scale western investment in an international tourist centre.

The July 1 conversion to the "West" German mark has given the town a burst of free market economic activity. Newly-bought used western cars and motorcycles fill the streets. Fruits and vegetables are plentiful in the main outdoor market.

Weimar is full of young people, many attending the Franz Liszt music school or the architecture school, and town leaders know they must act quickly to improve living conditions for residents.

But it may be years until homes in Weimar are heated with a less polluting fuel than brown coal.

"The infrastructure of Weimar must be made better first to restore and renovate the city for the people who live here. This must parallel the work on the cultural centre," said Lothar Pusch, a technical director at the Goethe House Museum.

As smoke filled the air outside the Liszt school on a chilly afternoon, a music student hurrying to classes paused to explain: "Yes, there's still no central heating, so everyone uses coal. But it will get better."

Fake medicines flood Third World

A mere 40 per cent of pharmaceuticals manufactured by firms in the Federal Republic of Germany for export to the Third World are found to be positive and sensible by German development policy action groups.

Six out of 10 are classified as negative, according to the report's findings, details of which were released in Frankfurt by the Budo, a caucus of roughly 200 development aid groups.

Two doctors spent five years analysing nearly 1,300 drugs exported by 32 firms to 26 Third World countries, said one of the two, Hermann Schulte-Sasse, a Bremen pharmacologist and specialist

in internal medicine.

Only one drug in eight was found to comply with WHO requirements of indispensable medicines. Over 400 of the 1,300 drugs were not marketed in Germany.

Manufacturers had been found to make full use of the leeway provided by inadequate pharmaceutical regulations in the countries concerned.

A spokesman for the Pharmaceutical Industry Association said in Frankfurt that he expected his association would be able to disprove the allegations made in the report "one after another." The claims made were nothing new. The WHO list of essen-

tial drugs was by definition not applicable to all countries. To use it as the sole yardstick was most dangerous both medically and therapeutically.

In comparison with 1985, Schulte-Sasse said, a number of pharmaceutical companies had responded to criticism of the products they exported to the Third World.

Five years ago the authors of the report found only 34 per cent of the drugs tested to be beneficial and 66 per cent to have negative properties.

The improvement was largely due to problematic long-established drugs having been withdrawn from developing countries. There had

yet to be an instance of a manufacturer withdrawing a drug that had been criticised but was selling well.

The majority of drugs poorly rated were said to be pointless combinations. The figures tallied with the findings of a Swiss report.

Some of these combination drugs had either never been marketed in Germany or had been banned in the Federal Republic for some time.

Five per cent, including drugs prescribed to reduce blood sugar or as painkillers, were felt to present serious risks. A further 10 per cent were found to have no effect at all. — (DPA)

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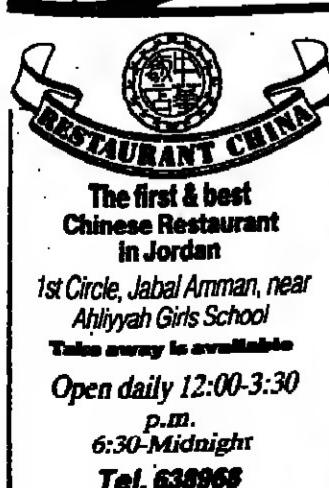
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China lets few canoeing golds slip away at Asian Games

PEKING (AP) — China turned out Friday to be weaker in canoeing than rowing at the Asian Games. But that just meant not sweeping all 13 gold medals.

South Korea won three, and Chun In-Shik had a hand in all of them. Park Cha-Keon joined him for two of the golds.

Meanwhile, South Korean archers broke yet another world record and won both the men's and women's team gold medals.

Pakistan won the men's field hockey gold medal by edging India 3-2 in the final game, and Indonesia won the mixed doubles tennis title.

China's 13 early golds Friday — 10 in canoeing, two in diving team competition and one in men's singles tennis — gave it a total of 17, or 59 per cent of those decided so far. South Korea had second place virtually locked up with 50.

After a one-day gold drought, Japan won one Friday and had 38 in all. Tennis pro Akiko Kijimuta beat China's Chen Li 6-3, 6-3 in the women's singles final.

With two golds each in volleyball and handball to be decided Friday night, China led in overall medals with 323, South Korea and Japan had 170 each and North Korea 80, including 12 golds.

Pakistan had four golds. Indonesia, Qatar and Iran each had three, Thailand and Malaysia each had two.

On Sept. 26, the Chinese had swept all 14 rowing medals. Chun and Park stopped them in

canoeing Friday by winning the men's 1,000 metre kayak singles and pairs and the 500-metre pairs.

The day's only really close race came in the men's 500-metre kayak singles, where China's Ma Fuliang beat South Korea's Lee Yong-Chul by only 0.35 seconds, 1 minute, 48.38 seconds to 1:48.73.

In archery, Yang Chang-Hoon, the men's individual winner on Thursday, joined fellow South Koreans Kim Sun-Bin and Park Jae-Pyo for a total of 1,005, breaking the world record of 999 set by a Soviet team last year.

They already had broken that record in the morning's semifinals with a 1,004.

Japan was second with 949 and Taiwan third with 946.

On Thursday, South Korea's Kim Soo-Nyung had broken her own world record of 343 with a 346 in the semifinals, but then slipped to 337 in the finals. Teammate Lee Jang-Mi won the gold with 339.

In Friday's team competition, Kim, Lee and Lee Eun-Kyung combined for a 1,003, beating the 970 of Taiwan and 960 of North Korea. Their total fell short of South Korea's world record of 1,010, which they had tied in the morning's semifinals.

Pakistan's victory earned it the games' hockey gold, while India took the silver and Malaysia the bronze. The Pakistanis won six and lost none in competition.

In diving, China's Gao Min, the women's one-metre spring-

board gold medalist, led in qualifying for the three-metre spring-board event with 581.88 points. Teammate Zhang Yuping was second with 534.27 and Japan's Yuki Motobuchi third with 490.26.

Gao's and Zhang's scores, combined with earlier Chinese qualifying scores in the one-metre and platform events, helped China win the women's team gold with a 3,056.40 total to 2,525.31 for Japan and 2,325.66 for Japan.

China also won the men's team title with 4,099.05 to 3,174.03 for Japan and 3,160.74 for North Korea. China's Tan Liangde, the one-metre gold medalist, led qualifying for the three-metre springboard with 736.71 points, followed by Li Deliang with 704.49 and North Korea's Cho Gumi San with 616.95.

The three-metre springboard finals are scheduled Saturday.

The men's tennis final was all-Chinese. Pan Dong struggled to a 1-6, 7-6 (7-4), 6-1 victory over Zhang Jiubao.

In mixed doubles, Yayuk Basuni and Suharyadi of Indonesia beat South Korea's Kim Il-Soo and Yoo Jin-Sun 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

Speared by its superb forward line, Pakistan downed archrival India 3-2 at the Asian Games Friday, adding another chapter to a classic confrontation that began four decades ago.

He received 2,216 votes to 1,717 for Chinese swimmer Shen Jianqiang, who won five gold medals in the 16-day games, which end Sunday.

Zhou had 1,820 votes.

among seven Asian teams.

India struck first, scoring off a penalty corner in the 12th minute of the first half. But six minutes later the game was tied as Pakistan's speedy forwards penetrated the Indian defence and M. Qamar Ibrahim scored.

With centre forward Shahbaz Ahmad frequently leading the charge, the Pakistan team slipped into Indian territory again and again.

Often it employed a five-man attack line, while Indian forwards who penetrated their opponents' defence often found themselves without support.

In a separate development, Qatari Sprinter Talal Mansoor has been named Asia's top athlete for 1990 and the outstanding athlete of the Asian Games in a poll of sportswriters.

Chinese cyclist Zhou Lingmen, who set a world record in the one-kilometer time trial, the first world record set in the current games, was chosen as the year's top Asian woman athlete.

The awards were announced Friday by the Asian Sports Press Association based on a poll of 3,600 sports journalists.

Mansoor, Asia's fastest man, won the 100 metres in 10.30 seconds, tying the games' record he set when he won in the last games in Seoul four years ago.

He received 2,216 votes to 1,717 for Chinese swimmer Shen Jianqiang, who won five gold medals in the 16-day games, which end Sunday.

Zhou had 1,820 votes.

Lendl, Edberg to clash at Australian indoor semis

SYDNEY (R) — Ivan Lendl earned the chance Friday to make Stefan Edberg pay for ruining his Wimbledon dream this year, setting up a semifinal clash with the world number one at the Australian indoor tournament.

Third seed Lendl, bidding for his fourth Australian indoor title in six years, beat Sweden's Peter Lundgren 6-2, 7-6 with a typically powerful baseline performance.

Edberg played sublime tennis in the first set against ninth seed David Wheaton of the United States but was given a welcome workout in the second before also winning 6-2, 6-1.

Edberg and Lendl, playing doubles together for the first time, were expect Saturday's semifinal in which he has sliced his ranking from 135 to under 50, by beating Grant Connell of Canada 7-6, 2-6, 6-1.

Woodbridge, who reached the final of the New Haven tournament in August and won the U.S. Open mixed doubles title with Liz Smylie, looks and plays like a slightly less experienced version of Edberg and is probably the tour's most improved player over the past year.

Boris Becker will rely on Australian coach Bob Brett to unlock the mysteries of his semifinal opponent after ousting American Richey Rennerge 6-4, 6-4 in the final.

"It's going to be tough for both of us," said Edberg. "To beat Ivan on this surface you've got to serve really well, that's the key. It could be a really good match."

Lendl agreed. "If both players are at their best, it's going to be a tremendous match," he said. "I haven't played Stefan on this surface for quite some while and I'm looking forward to it."

"I need to play Boris and Stefan as much as I can so I can keep up with them and see what my weaknesses are so I am prepared for it at the Grand Slams."

Edberg was all but untouchable in the first set against Wheaton, playing a brand of unrefined, graceful tennis which no one else on the tour can match.

Wheaton went for broke in the second set and earned a break in the second game. He held it until 4-2 when Edberg emerged from a game of four deuces to break set up a set-winning position.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY OCTOBER 6, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You have all sorts of opportunities to see things in their most comprehensive light so that whatever it is that you plan on doing will be broad in its scope and generous in its applications.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You can wind up some practical matters as the day starts but then you would be wise to do nothing that can make anyone feel you are evading an obligation.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Think out ways to put a little extra zip and zap into your residence, then you will need to put efforts into finding necessary tools to perfect a special talent.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Complete some new money arrangement early in the day, then you will be able to attend to an outside matter in a very necessary conscientious manner.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Get that invoice you have put off paying behind you, then you are free to delve into some new inspiration so it can work in your everyday life.

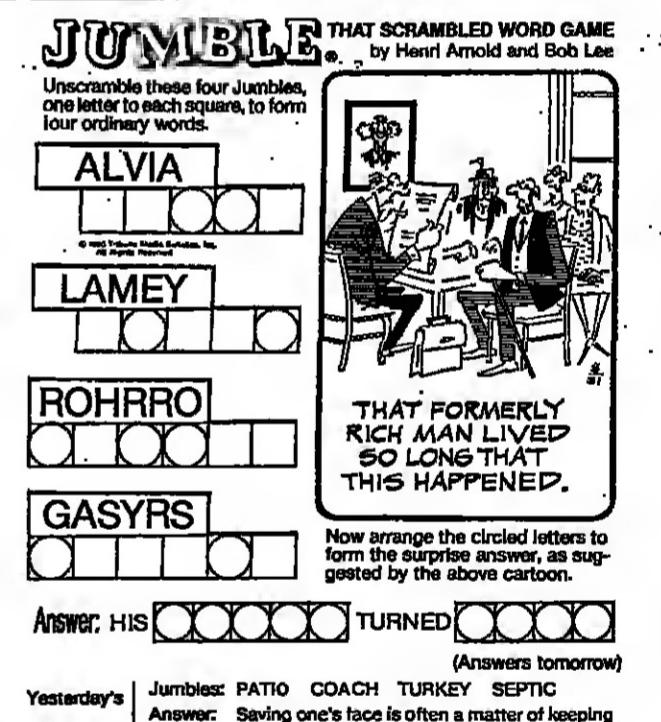
MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Follow down to earth suggestions of a no nonsense friend, then you will need to use care not to get into expensive amusement with a companion.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Get that invoice you have put off paying behind you, then you are free to delve into some new inspiration so it can work in your everyday life.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Join a good friend in an outside jaunt for some important purpose then it will be advised to avoid going along with a friend to some outside event.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



EUROPEAN SOCCER

AC Milan meets Bruges as Aston Villa travels to Italy

LONDON (R) — Champions AC Milan begin the defence of their title against Club Bruges in the second round of the European Cup, while England's Aston Villa take on Milan's city rivals Internazionale in the UEFA Cup.

Villa will be the first English club to play a competitive match against an Italian side since the 1985 Heysel Stadium disaster in which 39 people, mostly Juventus fans, were killed by rioting Liverpool supporters.

Milan, who as cup holders received a first round bye, are at home to the Belgians in the first leg on Oct. 24. Spanish champions Real Madrid were given a reasonably comfortable tie in the second round draw, made in Zurich on Friday, meeting Austrian Swarovski Tirol, with the first leg at home.

Manchester United, hoping for a glamorous tie against a top European side, were drawn against the fourth division Welsh side Wrexham in an all-British Cup Winners' Cup pairing.

Real Madrid, knocked out last year in the second round of the European Cup they so desperately crave, are confident of a better showing this season.

Real's President Ramon Menendez said: "I am always optimistic that this could be our year and after our record six European Cup wins we will, after a long time, grab the trophy this season."

"Of course, the opposition today is very fierce and in my view any one of half a dozen clubs could be in the running," he added. Real last won the cup in 1966.

Italy's other European Cup representatives, league champions Napoli were drawn at home

Wright seeks more goals to secure England place

Steve Bull of second division Wolverhampton Wanderers from the England side, will be anxious to add to his tally of three league goals and a League Cup hat-trick.

Wright's temperament, as well as his talent, could be tested when unheated Palace entertain Leeds, whose good start to life back in the top flight has been based on solid teamwork and a sound defence which has conceded seven goals in seven games.

England manager Taylor said after naming Wright in his squad: "He is an instinctive, exciting player and has got a lot of pace. We saw him go on as substitute in the F.A. Cup Final and turn the game." He scored two goals in the 3-3 draw against Manchester United.

Wright, who only turned professional at 21 five years ago, said: "I've thanked God a hundred times since I found out I'd been called up. I've always wanted the chance to play for England ever since I started playing for Palace."

"This is where the hard work starts. I've got to maintain my form, rise to that challenge. I've always been confident of scoring goals," he added.

Crystal Palace's uncapped striker Wright, hoping to oust

Navratilova moves into Essen women's semifinals

ESSEN, GERMANY (AP) — Martina Navratilova defeated Anke Huber of Germany 6-2, 6-2, to advance to the semifinals of an international tennis tournament in Essen.

Navratilova, the second-ranked women's player in the world, had little trouble proving she still plays top flight tennis, easily controlling the match against Huber, who at 15 is less than half her age.

A naturalised U.S. citizen born in Czechoslovakia, Navratilova will turn 34 on Oct. 18.

In the only other singles match of the day, Arantxa Sanchez of Spain fought a three-set battle against Katerina Malecova of Bulgaria to win 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

The tournament has proven a disappointment for German fans who expected to see their idol and world no. 1 women's player, Steffi Graf, take part.

Prize money in the tournament, called the Nokia Masters, is \$500,000.

Answer: His TURNED (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: PATIO COACH TURKEY SEPTIC
Answer: Saving one's face is often a matter of keeping --- PART OF IT SHUT

Mutt'n Jeff



Peanuts



GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

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Q 6 3

K 10 9 8 6 4 2

+ 9 8

EAST

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SOUTH

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Economy

Congress rejects Bush budget reduction scheme

WASHINGTON (R) — The House of Representatives threw out a controversial budget resolution early Friday in a major setback for President George Bush, raising the prospect of a government shutdown for lack of funding.

The 435-member House voted 179 to 254 against the outlines of a belt-tightening deficit reduction plan that Bush had said was critical to avoid recession. Two members abstained.

Opponents of the plan ranged from liberal Democrats, wanting larger cuts in military spending and higher taxes on the rich to conservative Republicans who opposed any tax hikes.

The resolution, aimed at cutting the U.S. budget deficit by \$50 billion over the next five years, came before Congress at a sensitive time, only a month before the entire House of Representatives faces reelection on Nov. 6.

The package included politically painful measures such as tax increases on beer, wine, liquor, cigarettes and petrol and cuts in health care for the elderly.

Rank-and-file members rebelled despite intense lobbying by Bush and the congressional lead-

ership.

The defeat of the budget resolution threatened to shut down government operations starting this weekend, when temporary funding authority expires.

Asked who would design a new budget, House speaker Thomas Foley, a Democrat, said after the defeat: "Whatever group it will be, it will not be called a summit."

House Budget Committee Chairman Leon Panetta, a Democrat, had called Friday's defeated resolution "an essential first step in the budget process."

Bush warned in a televised speech aimed at rallying Congress Tuesday "if we fail to enact this agreement, our economy will falter. Markets may tumble. And recession will follow."

But House conservatives, led by Georgia representative Newt Gingrich, the second-ranking Republican, fought the plan on the ground that higher taxes would be damaging to the economy, already on the brink of recession.

Faced with elections next month, the conservatives felt betrayed by Bush, who made a no-new-tax pledge the centerpiece of his 1988 campaign for the presidency.

The vote was the first test of a compromise painstakingly crafted during five months of negotia-

tions between the White House and leaders of the Democrats and Republicans in Congress, which were dubbed the budget summit.

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mit."

House Budget Committee Chairman Leon Panetta, a Democrat, had called Friday's defeated resolution "an essential first step in the budget process."

Bush warned in a televised speech aimed at rallying Congress Tuesday "if we fail to enact this agreement, our economy will falter. Markets may tumble. And recession will follow."

But House conservatives, led by Georgia representative Newt Gingrich, the second-ranking Republican, fought the plan on the ground that higher taxes would be damaging to the economy, already on the brink of recession.

Faced with elections next month, the conservatives felt betrayed by Bush, who made a no-new-tax pledge the centerpiece of his 1988 campaign for the presidency.

The vote was the first test of a compromise painstakingly crafted during five months of negotia-

Prague raises petrol prices

PRAGUE (R) — The Czechoslovak government has begun a form of petrol rationing to curb consumption, raising prices more than 30 per cent because of the Gulf crisis and reduced Soviet oil supplies.

From Saturday to the end of the month, the price of 92 octane fuel will go up to 16 crowns (\$1.02) a litre, and 96 octane to 18 crowns (\$1.15). Economy Minister Vladimir Dlouhy announced on television Thursday.

Diesel fuel will also rise by a similar amount. Dlouhy said motorists would be able to buy 25 litres at the current price but anything bought above that would cost the new price.

Dlouhy said the price rise was intended to be prohibitive to reduce consumption and the government would decide later whether it would continue beyond the end of October.

Motorists formed long queues at petrol stations Thursday and Friday as word spread that the government was about to introduce drastic measures to counter the oil shortage.

President Vaclav Havel is to ask Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev for a meeting to discuss recent severe cutbacks in Soviet oil supplies on which Czechoslovakia heavily depends, the state news agency CTK reported Thursday.

Japan current account surplus posts decline

TOKYO (R) — Japan's current account surplus plunged in August, the government announced Friday, and economists said it could disappear in coming months.

"This decline is part of a trend that could continue as the impact of climbing oil prices begins to hurt the economies of Japan's trading partners," said Chiharu Sumita, economist at UBS Phillips & Drew International.

The surplus in the current account, the broadest measure of trade in goods and services, narrowed to \$94.2 million in August from \$3.43 billion a year earlier. The surplus was \$2.02 billion in July.

Japan's merchandise trade surplus fell to \$4.12 billion in August from \$4.87 billion a year earlier. In July, it was \$5.42 billion.

Exports rose an unimpressive 2.1 per cent from a year earlier to \$21.89 billion in August.

Economists blamed weaker demand for Japanese goods in key markets such as the United States, where consumer spending is faltering.

Imports into Japan rose to \$17.77 billion from \$16.58 billion a year earlier.

Economists noted a wider deficit in "invisible" trade, which includes activities such as interest payments and overseas travel. The deficit in that account climbed to \$2.91 billion from a \$1.15 billion gap a year ago.

Peter Morgan, chief economist at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, said reduced income from Japanese investments abroad had contributed to the wider deficit in the invisibles account.

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Gulf crisis cripples many economies

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Saddam Hussein's takeover of Kuwait has sent economic shock waves around the globe, doubling oil prices, paralysing stock markets, undermining business confidence and leaving countries in Eastern Europe and Asia in dire straits.

But it has brought windfalls for oil-producing countries who will make billions of extra dollars this year as prices climb. Since Iraq's invasion, they have gone from \$16 a barrel to around \$40.

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ern Europe, with little hard currency to pay for increasingly expensive oil, are in deep trouble.

The United Nations economic embargo on Iraq that is squeezing Baghdad is also causing hardship to many countries as well as costing billions of dollars in lost straits.

Iraq owed around \$35 billion to the Soviet Union, France, Italy and others. It was repaying some with oil. Now that flow has been cut and economists and government officials say the debts are a writeoff.

Impoverished Asian countries like India, the Philippines, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, as well as Arab states, have lost billions of dollars in remittances from some 2.3 million of their nationals working in Kuwait.

The cost of airlifting home the hundreds of thousands who have fled Kuwait and Iraq has further strained their treasuries.

Few of these countries, deep in the red, will be able to cope with rising oil prices without substantial aid.

The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the European Community (EC) and other organisations have rallied to help cushion the economic hardships caused by the crisis.

U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar reported that 11 countries have asked for help: Bulgaria, India, Jordan, Lebanon, the Philippines, Romania, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen and Yugoslavia.

Japan has pledged \$2 billion to help Egypt, Jordan and Turkey bear the brunt of the embargo.

South Korea says it will donate 30,000 tonnes of rice worth \$10 million to these countries and extend long-term, low-interest loans of \$40 million. The EC has pledged another \$2 billion.

IMF and World Bank officials have said more money will be available from oil producers who are reaping hefty benefits from high oil prices.

Among the countries hit most by the crisis are:

Turkey: As one of the so-called frontline states, it will lose an estimated \$7 billion because of higher oil prices and reduced exports and tourism by the end of next year. Ankara got 60 per cent of its oil from neighbouring Iraq before the crisis and earned \$300 million a year from Iraq in oil pipeline fees.

Officials believe that the economy is strong enough to withstand the shock of the crisis, even without aid. But central bank governor Rusdu Saracoglu noted: "This crisis will set a precedent as to how the West acts toward its allies."

India: Muchkund Dubey, a senior foreign ministry official in New Delhi, said India will lose \$2.5 billion this year. That includes \$1 billion in exports from its million-plus Egyptians who worked in Kuwait or writing off \$446 million owed by Iraq.

However, Egypt will earn an extra \$1 billion this fiscal year from oil exports. U.S. President George Bush has asked Congress to write off Egypt's \$6.7 billion pipeline fees.

Brazil: Soaring oil prices mean its import bill could double to \$6 billion a year. That will make it harder to pay off Brazil's \$11.7 billion debt. Fuel price increases will push up the cost of living and there is already speculation of rationing, which would slow down the economy.

Brazil is Iraq's closest ally in South America, but economic and military links have been sharply reduced. Brazil has not sold weapons to Iraq since 1988 because of debts on previous arms sales officially estimated at \$3 billion.

Romania: Officials estimate the crisis will cost \$3 billion including writing off Iraq's \$1.7 billion debt. Baghdad was to repay 70 per cent of that in cheap oil. Now Romania, its Soviet supply curtailed, will have to pay out an estimated \$770 million.

Officials estimated that contracts with Iraq worth \$1.2 billion have been lost.

Czechoslovakia: Officials said it will not be able to cope if oil prices hit \$65 a barrel. "If that happens, we'd have to give up on economic reforms. I guess we wouldn't be the only ones," a finance ministry official in Prague said.

EC unveils new plan to cut farm subsidies

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The European Community (EC) said Thursday it would be willing to trim costly export subsidies for farmers but refused to embrace the sharp cuts demanded by the United States.

The Community's executive body unveiled its latest agricultural trade talks that have been stalled by a bitter dispute between the 12-nation trading bloc and the United States over farm payments.

Ray MacSweeney, the Community's top agriculture official, said the proposal "strikes a careful balance between the needs of European farmers and the desire to have a successful conclusion to the Uruguay Round of trade talks, according to a statement.

The four-year negotiations, which are scheduled to end in Brussels in December, are aimed at overhauling the world trading system. They are designed to reduce barriers to trade in 15 areas, including agriculture, textiles and other manufactured goods and services such as banking and investment.

Moreover, it said it is willing to translate these changes into a numerical level and then "re-evaluate this quantification."

The statement, carefully and technically worded, appeared to be an attempt to signal the Community's willingness to bargain reductions in export subsidies, although not to the level the United States has been pushing for.

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they need immediate cash," he said. "The ups and downs in this business are felt very fast because the Gulf imports virtually everything from abroad."

Six international shipping lines constituting Oman's Joint Container Service (JCS) are to raise general rates from Nov. 1 to an extra \$100 per feu (20-foot-equivalent) and \$200 per feu (40-foot-equivalent) on full container loads, and \$5 per freight ton on partly full containers, shipping executives said.

The member lines concerned are Cunard Ellerman London, Hapag-Lloyd Hamburg, Navale et Commerciale Havraise Peninsulaire, Nedlloyd Lijnens Rotterdam, P and O London and United Arab Shipping (S.A.G.) London.

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France, Belgium and Zaire send troops to rebel-hit Rwanda

PARIS (R) — France, Belgium and Zaire sent troops to the central African state of Rwanda Friday after rebels brought fighting to the capital, Kigali.

A company of 150 French troops landed in Kigali Thursday night and seized control of the airport and the French embassy. Officials in Paris said those guarding the embassy opened fire at one stage. The foreign ministry said a further 150 French troops were on their way to Kigali.

Belgium has meanwhile sent about 600 paratroopers to its former African colony and French reporter Gerard Bardin, speaking by telephone from Kigali to French radio, said Zairean troops arrived aboard transport aircraft Friday.

Fighting broke out near the presidential palace before dawn Friday following a rebel invasion from Uganda six days ago. Bardin said the city had been calm since daybreak.

"It's calm now. There are quite a few Transall and Hercules (transport planes) flying around,

which have brought in French, Belgians and Zaireans just now," Bardin said.

The French journalist said French foreign legionnaires arrived in Kigali Thursday evening from Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic, and took control of the airport. About 150 more legionnaires were due to arrive Friday from Chad, he said.

France maintains a permanent troops presence in both countries.

French Foreign Ministry spokesman Daniel Bernard said radio reports that Paris had ordered the evacuation of its 700 citizens in Rwanda, but he said it was advising people not to travel there.

Preparations were being made for the voluntary departure of any French citizens in the country who wanted to leave, he added.

Although no official evacuation order has been given, Bardin said embassies in Kigali were arranging to send 270 women and

children to Paris on an Air France plane which was expected to arrive in Kigali Friday night.

In Uganda, an army spokesman reported that Rwandan army helicopters were bombing the Ugandan border to dissuade more Rwanda exiles in Uganda from joining the rebel forces.

The rebels, who invaded Rwanda from Uganda last Sunday, are led by Fred Rwigyema, a Rwandan refugee who rose to become a major general in the Ugandan army.

State radio in Rwanda ordered people to stay at home Friday and outlawed meetings of more than two people.

Bardin said there had been deaths in Kigali during fighting overnight but it was impossible to tell how many.

The Ugandan army spokesman said two of the Rwandan helicopters had violated Ugandan airspace and Kampala would lodge a diplomatic protest.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman in Paris said the French forces in Rwanda would work in close cooperation with the Belgian troops that have been dis-

Havel, Gorbachev candidates for Nobel Prize

Soviet plane hijacker surrenders in Helsinki

HELSINKI (AP) — A hijacked Soviet domestic airliner landed at Helsinki's international airport Friday and an unarmed hijacker surrendered to police after brief negotiations, a police official said.

The Soviet News Agency, TASS, said the man had threatened to blow up the plane.

"The hijacker wanted to go to Stockholm, (Sweden), but he was told there was not enough fuel... he is currently being interrogated by police," said Chief Inspector Pekka Birolainen.

The 41-year-old man applied for political asylum, Birolainen told reporters.

The hijacked Aeroflot Yak-40 aircraft carried 22 passengers and a crew of four, Finnish authorities said. The 28-seat jet was on an internal flight northwest of Moscow when the man forced it to change course.

The hijacker was not identified.

Earlier this year, five domestic planes were hijacked to Finland and to Sweden by young men who said they were political dissidents or fugitives from the Soviet Union.

Swedish and Finnish officials extradited four of them. One was given political asylum in Sweden.

the Leningrad Air Traffic Control Centre informed the Finnish authorities about the hijacked plane 25 minutes before it landed at the Helsinki airport at 10:20 (0820 GMT).

The aircraft was on its way from Novgorod, 500 kilometres northwest of Moscow, to Leningrad and Petrozavodsk. It was hijacked before it reached Leningrad.

It was the third hijacked plane from the Soviet Union to land in Finland this year.

Germany rescues election plan

BONN (Agencies) — Two days after the birth of new Germany, parliament Friday rescued plans for nationwide elections on Dec. 2 by passing a new balloting law during its first session in Bonn.

The parliament also ratified an international treaty restoring the nation's full sovereignty that was signed last month with the World War II victors.

The new election law was approved by a broad majority of government and opposition lawmakers by a show of hands.

The legislation replaces an election treaty that was rejected by the supreme court.

It was the most crowded session ever at the Bundestag, Germany's parliament, housed in a building that once served as Bonn's waterworks.

"I warmly welcome you to the waterworks," Parliamentary President Rita Suessmuth joked, as she opened the session by welcoming new members from now-dissolved East Germany.

Student leader Chai was proposed after she described the Chinese crackdown on the student-led democracy movement on June 4 last year in a tape smuggled out of China.

However, according to a Nobel source in Oslo, her chances could be jeopardised by the fact that the Dalai Lama won the peace prize last year. China denounced the committee's choice of the Dalai Lama, who opposes Chinese rule in Tibet.

Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite, died in 1896. In his will he instructed that the interest of his fortune be distributed annually to reward "those who, during the preceding year, shall have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind."

All Nobel Committees keep their lists secret, but nominating individuals and organisations for the peace prize have often made known their choices.

According to Nobel sources in Oslo, U.S. President George Bush, Pope John Paul II, German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Alexander Dubcek, leader of Czechoslovakia's abortive 1968 reforms, are among the 1990 peace prize nominees.

Only 16 of the Swedish Academy's 18 members are taking part in this year's literature prize selection after a row last year.

The black faction fighting spread to Johannesburg area townships in August, killing some 800 people. It has eased in the past two weeks, but strained relations between the government

by themselves before unity Oct. 3.

The ex-East German legislators include 24 from the former Communist Party, which now calls itself the Party for Democratic Socialism (PDS).

It was the first time members of the former Communist Party of East Germany took part in a session at Germany's parliamentary seat in Bonn.

In contrast to Thursday's inaugural session in the Berlin Reichstag, complete with symbols like a moment of silence for the victims of Nazism and Stalinism, the deputies squabbled over details of Germany's military status and election system.

They also began debating a new draft budget — Bonn's third this year — that more than triples the budget deficit to grapple with the rocketing costs of unification.

An overwhelming majority voted for the "two-plus-four" treaty, making Germany the first signatory to approve the agreement restoring the full sovereignty lost when Hitler's Third Reich was defeated in 1945.

De Klerk pays surprise visit to Natal townships

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — President F.W. De Klerk received warm cheers Thursday on an unannounced visit to black townships in Natal province wracked by years of faction fighting.

He praised local leaders of the warring factions for negotiating a Shongweni township truce that halted the fighting, which has claimed 5,000 lives in Natal in five years.

Such a trip would have been unthinkable a year ago, before De Klerk pushed for an end to apartheid and freed African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela from prison.

The white-led government and the ANC have held peace talks since May on eliminating apartheid.

Tight security was evident, with yellow police helicopters circling the presidential party's helicopter.

De Klerk presented Bibles to Victor Kabis of Inkatha and Tulam Zulu of the United Democratic Front, an ANC affiliate.

and the ANC.

Most of the fighting has pitted Zulu supporters of the conservative Inkatha Movement against Xhosa and other blacks linked to the ANC.

It was the second time in a month De Klerk has ventured into black townships, an extremely rare act by a South African leader.

He also drew a warm reception on his visit last month to the Soweto township southwest of Johannesburg.

Residents of Shongweni and the Imbali township cheered and sang Thursday when De Klerk appeared, accompanied by his wife and other government leaders.

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SYDNEY (AP) — The final curtain came down on Dame Joan Sutherland's career that spanned nearly four decades. Ms. Sutherland, the 63-year-old soprano known as "la stupenda" or the "magnificent one," chose to make her last appearance in her hometown, appearing as Marguerite de Valois in Giacomo Meyerbeer's *Les Huguenots*. Tickets for the performance ranged up to \$500 dollars (\$415). More than 400 tuxedoed and fur-bedecked patrons also attended a post-performance dinner that carried the same price tag. The enthusiastic crowd, including Prime Minister Bob Hawke and treasurer Paul Keating, chatted excitedly about "a once-in-a-lifetime" even as they lingered around the Opera House afterward. The curtain calls and final accolades lasted nearly 45 minutes and included fireworks inside the shell-like Opera House complex.

Manila poised to drive out rebels

CAGAYAN DE ORO, Philippines (R) — Philippine forces attacked troops who joined a day-old rebellion on the southern island of Mindanao Friday, driving them from one army camp and threatening to crush an insurrection in two other cities.

The rebels, led by a former deputy head of President Corazon Aquino's palace guard, Colonel Alexander Noble, launched a rebellion Thursday in the latest of many challenges to Aquino's four-year-old rule.

Air force planes blasted Butuan's Bancasi Camp forcing rebels to flee into the city, witnesses said.

Two World War II-vintage T-28s, or "Tora-Toras," struck 11 times at the army brigades headquarters, destroying a building.

But rebels still held a key road to the rebel-controlled northern Mindanao town of 157,000 inhabitants.

The rebels said this would be the

route for government forces in any attempt to recapture the town, journalists at the scene said.

A military spokesman said the attack cut communications between Butuan and the northern Mindanao town of Cagayan de Oro, where Noble had his headquarters.

Noble told reporters he wanted to set up an independent Mindanao state.

But military officials said they thought the rebellion was part of a plot to destabilise Aquino's government and draw troops away from the capital, Manila.

Aquino has survived six coup attempts since coming to power in 1986, the most serious last December.

Congress Speaker Ramon Mitra said the government "must take the strongest possible measures to ensure that this becomes the last challenge... to its constitutional authority, no matter

what the cost."

Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa told a news conference the government was poised to crush the rebellion and the military had reinforced its defence of the capital.

"For all intents and purposes, the secessionist rebellion... is finished," he said.

"What remains to be done is to simply recover the camps," he added.

Brigadier General Antonio Nale told reporters in Iligan, northern Mindanao, "we are going to conduct military operations. This problem cannot be settled by a dialogue. We have to apply pressure on the rebels to surrender."

Nale was given temporary command of the Fourth Infantry Division after the previous commander, Brigadier General Miguel Sol, disappeared during the insurrection. He whereabouts are unknown.

"In fact, the leader of the organisation has confessed openly about his visits and relations with Libya."

He declined to say, however, whether the coup was backed by Libya, saying the case currently was in the courts.

On July 27, Muslim militants stormed parliament and the government run TV station and took the prime minister and more than 50 others hostage. The ensuing six-day siege and accompanying looting left 24 people dead and 500 wounded. Trioliad is a Caribbean island nation of 1.2 million people off the coast of Venezuela. The fighting has caused an estimated \$60 million damage

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The storm has been showing signs of getting stronger, and we're forecasting the possibility of it becoming a hurricane within the next 24 hours," forecaster Miles Lawrence said.

Tropical storms are upgraded to hurricanes when their maximum sustained winds reach 74 MPH (119 KPH).

Among the missing in Martique were two sisters, aged eight and 14, who were swept from a flooded bridge Wednesday in St. Joseph in the centre of the island. Rescuers were searching for the girls Thursday.

The bodies of two men were found late Wednesday. Authorities said one of the victims was a 56-year-old farmer, who fell from a tractor into a flooded ditch. Circumstances of the second man's death were unclear, but it was believed he also drowned in floodwaters that reached nearly 10 feet in places.

A major leakage from the vessel could have caused a huge gas cloud over the Antwerp area, police said, since the ammonia was stored at minus 33 degrees Centigrade (minus 28 Fahrenheit).

Reaction of super-cooled gases with water at normal temperature could create gas clouds.

Army takes over Slovenia territorial headquarters

BELGRADE (R) — The Yugoslav army has taken over territorial defence headquarters in the northwestern Republic of Slovenia. Slovenian officials said Friday.

The move follows a heated dispute over the control of territorial defence units on Slovenian soil.

Slovenia's parliament last week amended the republic's constitution to put territorial defence under the republic's control.

The army said the move was illegal and a threat to Yugoslavia's constitutional order.

Slovenian Information Minister official Andrej Furlan told

Reuters the army moved into the territorial defence offices Thursday night and cut off all communications. She said it was evicting civilians working there.

No arrests had been made, but

Tropical storm hits Caribbean

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

Tropical storm Klaus bore down on the eastern Caribbean after spawning severe flooding on the French island of Martinique, where two people were reported dead and four missing.

The National Hurricane Centre in Miami said Klaus, the 11th named storm of the Atlantic hurricane season, was packing sustained winds of 60 MPH (96 KPH) and threatened to develop into a hurricane by Friday.

Hurricane warnings were issued for the popular tourist islands of the Leeward chain along an arc from the French and Dutch islands of St. Martin-Saint Maarten in the north to the British colony of Montserrat in the south. Tropical storm warnings remained in effect for Martinique and its sister island of Guadeloupe.

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